



# ***SOUTHEAST NEWS***

***April - May 2008***

*Southeast Elementary School, 134 Warrenville Rd., Mansfield Center, CT 06250 423-1611*

Dear Southeast Families,

Happy Spring! I hope you are ready for some nice weather. We could use some warmer days and more sunshine. It's hard to believe that spring is finally here.

We are looking forward to the next few months of school. There are many more programs and activities planned for the remainder of the school year. Take a look at the calendar of events for some of our upcoming events. Many of our children have enjoyed some of our extended day activities and are excited to be part of some new ones for the next few months of school.

Enjoy the spring-like weather. Hope to see you soon.

Fondly,  
Norma Fisher-Doiron

## **Parents of Incoming Kindergarteners**

Kindergarten Screening and Registration will be held on April 9th & 10th. If you have not yet made your appointment for registration and screening, please call the office at 423-1611. Please remember to turn in your Physical forms to the nurse before the end of the school year. Southeast Preschoolers entering Kindergarten do not need to attend registration and screening.

## **PICKING CHILDREN UP FROM SCHOOL**



Please remember to send a written note in with your child if you will need to pick him/her up from school early, or unscheduled at the end of the day. This will eliminate any confusion at dismissal time, and assure your child's safety.

Phone calls, e-mails and/or faxes cause interruptions of the classroom and are not reliable or acceptable ways to notify the teacher or the office.

**Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.**

## **Science Fair and Invention Convention**

The annual Southeast School Science Fair and Invention Convention was held on Wednesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>. Many families came to support our student scientists and inventors and to celebrate science and creativity!

We awarded over 50 science fair certificates and ribbons and five invention convention certificates and ribbons.

Our judges selected two inventors to represent Southeast School at the Connecticut Invention Convention on Saturday, May 3rd at The University of Connecticut.

They are:

- ☺ John Zhou in Mr. Maheu's class for his "Head Protector" invention to keep athletes' heads safe during soccer, basketball or skating.
- ☺ Lizzie Velazquez in Ms. Kamienski's class for her "Cleaning in a Jiffy" invention to help families save time and energy as they do their cleaning chores.



Congratulations John and Lizzie on your Achievement!

*Thank you to all families who helped their children with this project and to all the teachers and staff who supported this event.*

**Attendance Line/Nurse: 423-2793**

**Please visit our website [www.mansfieldct.org/schools/southeast](http://www.mansfieldct.org/schools/southeast)**

## TV Turn-Off Week



During the week of April 21-27<sup>th</sup>, Southeast is celebrating T.V. Turn-off Week. This week is a national celebration, which encourages students to turn off the T.V. and involve themselves in activities that can foster their social, physical, academic, and creative development. We are encouraging students and families at Southeast to turn off the T.V. and involve themselves in other exciting activities. Whether it be going outside and enjoying nature, bonding with family through game nights, or unleashing their imagination through reading books, we want every student to realize how many fun things they can involve themselves in without watching T.V.

During TV Turnoff week, Southeast is planning some great activities after school that kids can get involved with. We will be having a Story Night at the Mansfield Library, a Talent Show, and the P.T.O. will be hosting a Disney Dance Luau at the end of the week. We hope to get many students and families involved in this week, and prizes will be given out to participants. More information to come.



## Stories for Southeast

### *The Gift That Keeps on Giving*

We would like to thank the individuals below for their purchase of the following books for our school library:

- The Mighty Asparagus ..... For Anatole Keshwani.... The Year of the Rat 2008
- The Ghost of the Chattering Bones ..... For Nicholas Porebski.... On his 10<sup>th</sup> birthday with love from Mom, Dad and brother Martin
- The Great Shark Mystery ..... For Nicholas Porebski.... On his 10<sup>th</sup> birthday with love from Mom, Dad and brother Martin
- Gomer and Little Gomer ....For Jerry on his 6<sup>th</sup> birthday... Love Mom, Dad and Antonio
- Pocahontas: Princess of the New World. . . .for Kelley and Jesse Gifford. . . In loving memory of their grandma, Carol France Gifford

If you are interested in purchasing a book for our library, please contact Linda Sydnie at 423-1282 or email at [lsydnie@snet.net](mailto:lsydnie@snet.net) for more information.

## Spring Clean for the Tag Sale!

The Southeast Tag Sale is Saturday, May 17 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. We would love donations of household items, furniture, toys, sports equipment, books, movies, games, bikes, etc. (no clothes, please). You can drop them off in the Southeast storage shed that is located at the back of the parking lot starting Monday, April 14 during school hours. All profits from the sale go to the Southeast PTO.

If you want to rent a table to sell your items, they are \$10. Reserve a table by filling out the form available in the front office. The deadline for table reservations is May 9, and tables are limited to first-come-first-serve. We only have 20 tables available, so make your \$10 deposit to guarantee yourself a table. If you would like to donate a portion of your profits to the PTO, that would be great!

We really need volunteers for this event to help sort items on Friday, May 16, or to set up and/or clean up on Saturday, May 17. Contact Julie Brown at 429-0801, if you would like to volunteer or if you have any questions.



## Get Involved in Enrichment Clusters!

The Schoolwide Enrichment Team is pleased to announce that Enrichment Clusters are scheduled for May and June. Enrichment Clusters are workshops held during school for multi-aged groups of students who share a common interest with the person(s) presenting the cluster. Each Southeast student in kindergarten through grade 4 will choose a cluster to attend for all five weeks doing hands-on, advanced activities.

Enrichment Clusters are scheduled for May 16, 23, 30 and June 6, 13. The first cluster session will be held from 2:30-3:15 and all the others will be held from 1:30-3:30.

To make sure that we have lots of great choices for our students, we need your help! We hope you or someone you know will be interested in presenting an enrichment cluster. All presenters will be paired with a staff member. Some ideas for clusters are: photography, gardening, animals, sign language, robotics, sports, cooking, games, inventions, drama, writing, web design, publishing, sewing, chemistry, art and so much more!



For more information, please contact Susan Irvine [sue.irvine@mansfieldct.org](mailto:sue.irvine@mansfieldct.org) or 423-1611 ext. 122.

Calendar of Events**April**

April 3.....	3:30-5:00 Battle of the Books
April 7.....	9:15-11:00 Meteorologist, John Carroll visit 6:00 Parents' Hour 7:00 PTO Meeting
April 7-11.....	Go Green Week
April 9.....	Kindergarten Registration & Screening (by appointment)
April 10.....	Kindergarten Registration & Screening (by appointment) 3:30-5:00 Battle of the Books 7:30 Board of Education meeting
April 14 - 18.....	Spring Vacation - NO SCHOOL
April 20.....	Passover
April 21.....	11:15-12:00 TV Turnoff Week Assembly 3:30-5:00 Geology Class (Gr. 3 & 4)
April 21-15.....	TV Turn-Off Week
April 22.....	Earth Day 8:15 Enrichment Team Meeting 6:30-7:15 Story Night at Mansfield Library
April 23.....	Secretary's Day 3:30 Green Thumbs Club 3:30-5:00 Science Sampler (Gr. 3 & 4) 6:30-7:30 Talent Show
April 24.....	Sun Safety with 2nd Grade 3:30-5:00 Battle of the Books 7:30 Board of Education meeting
April 25.....	6:00-8:00 PTO Disney Luau Dance
April 26.....	Manfield's Earth Day at Community Ctr.
April 28.....	3:30-5:00 Geology Class (Gr. 3 & 4)
April 30.....	Author Diane deGroat visit 3:30-5:00 Science Sampler (Gr. 3 & 4)

**"Shine Your Smile Day" is Coming!**

We have invited Mobile Dentists/Smile Programs to bring it's on-site preventative dental services to our school in May because we know how important good oral health is to our children's overall general health.

The team will set up a mini-dental office in our building and can provide dental examinations, cleanings, flouride treatments, x-rays and sealants (if necessary) for children.

The Mobile Dentist/Smile Programs can provide these services to families who need financial assistance and it has *subsidized fees* for those who choose to pay for the preventative care. **No child is ever turned away from the program because of financial need.**

Registration forms must be returned by April 11th.

Learn more about this program by visiting its website:  
www.mobiledentists.com or contact Vicki Daniels at 423-2793.

Calendar of Events**May**

May 1.....	3:30-5:00 Battle of the Books
May 5.....	Hispanic Culture Day 3:30-5:00 Geology Class (Gr. 3 & 4) 6:00 Parents' Hour 7:00 PTO Meeting
May 5-9.....	Teacher Appreciation Week
May 6.....	1st Grade field trip to Lutz Museum
May 7.....	PTO Luncheon for teachers 3:30-5:00 Science Sampler (Gr. 3 & 4)
May 8.....	7:30 Board of Education meeting 3:30-5:00 Battle of the Books
May 11.....	Mother's Day
May 12.....	3:30-5:00 Geology Class (Gr. 3 & 4)
May 14.....	3:30-5:00 Science Sampler (Gr. 3 & 4)
May 15.....	3:30-5:00 Battle of the Books
May 16.....	2:30-3:15 Enrichment Clusters
May 17.....	7:00-3:00 Southeast Tag Sale
May 20.....	8:15 Enrichment Team Meeting
May 21.....	3:30 Green Thumbs Club
May 22.....	3:30-5:00 Battle of the Books
May 23.....	1:15-3:15 Enrichment Clusters
May 26.....	Memorial Day - NO SCHOOL
May 28.....	3:30 Green Thumbs Club
May 29.....	3:30-5:00 Battle of the Books
May 30.....	1:15-3:15 Enrichment Clusters

**Donations for Generations Family Health Center**

We are doing a project to help people in our community and would like your help. We are collecting small items to donate to the Generations Family Health Center in Willimantic. These small supplies will be given to help people feel healthy, clean and cared for. Here are some of the things we would like to collect:

sunscreen	shampoo	soap
combs	brushes	bugspray
tissue packets	baby wipes	sunglasses
handi-wipes	gauze	band-aids
conditioner	deodorant	diapers
Q-tips	hairbands	Stop&Shop \$ cards
water	toothpaste	toothbrushes
granola bars	crackers	floss
mouthwash	socks	

Remember, all items should be small. Any donations can be brought to school by a student. There will be a collection box outside the office until April 11th. Thank you.

From, The Second Grade Classes



## Character Corner

### INDEPENDENCE

Teach your youngster a new skill, like how to fix his/her own lunch or lay out his/her clothes for school the next day. Your child will gain a sense of accomplishment when he/she doesn't have to ask you for help.

### Internet Safety and the Online Dangers for Our Children Presented by the U.S. Secret Services



Special Agents Kent McCarthy and Kris Tatara from the United States Secret Service will offer a free presentation for all parents of the E.O. Smith School District and surrounding communities to learn about the dangers of the internet and how to keep your child safe. The Agents will conduct an hour long presentation providing accurate statistics pertaining to child internet youth, online solicitations from predators, real case studies and insight to resources such as their partnership with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. The Agents will also discuss the advantages, disadvantages, and the dangers of public websites such as Facebook™ and MySpace™.

E.O. SMITH HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM  
1235 Storrs Road, Storrs, CT 06268

Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> 7- 8:30pm

For more information,  
call E.O. Smith High School  
(860) 487-0877

## FREE DENTAL CARE!

**No Dental Insurance? No Problem!**  
**First Come, First Served**  
**No Appointments.**



Saturday April 12th 5:00 am - 5:00 pm  
Sunday April 13th 5:00 am - 12:00 noon

Tolland High School  
1 Falcon Way  
(Off of Old Cathole Rd.)  
Tolland, CT

- Services will be provided by volunteer dentists, UConn dental students, dental hygienists and dental assistants.
- There are no income limits to receive treatment.
- Services provided: Cleanings, Fillings, Extractions
- For more information: 866-539-9372 or visit our website [WWW.csd.a.com](http://WWW.csd.a.com)

A Project of the Connecticut Foundation for Dental Outreach and the Connecticut State Dental Association



## PTO Happenings:

### Disney Luau Dance

Friday, April 25th  
6 - 8 pm

The Southeast School PTO is happy to announce that it will be sponsoring a Disney Luau Dance this year. All grades are welcome to attend. Come join us as a DJ plays a selection of songs from High School Musical, Hannah Montana, Cheetah Girls, and other Disney & Luau favorites. Come march in the Pirates & Princess Parade! Have your picture taken in a fun luau scene! See how low you can go under the limbo stick! Or just have fun collecting handouts! Parents must accompany their child/ren. Any parent that can help out before, during or after the dance, please call Andrea Lennon at 455-2100 or Wendy Guyette at 429-0335.

There is no admission charge, but we will be collecting items listed on a soldier's wish list to support our U.S. troops. The list will be distributed in April with the dance flyer. Hope to see you there! ALOHA!



### TEACHER'S APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

Wednesday, May 7th

The Southeast Elementary School PTO will be hosting a luncheon for S.E. teachers & staff in appreciation for everything they do for our children all year long.

Anyone who is available to volunteer their time to help set/clean up, or donate a luncheon item, please call Andrea Lennon at 455-2100. Thank you.

## MANY THANKS...

To our parents who volunteer to help during these busy school days. And....of course. thank you to our PTO officers this year:



President.....Kim O'Keefe  
Vice President.....Kimberly Christenson  
Secretary.....Monique Brown  
Treasurer.....Lesley Sweeney